

# B.A. in English

[Overview](#)

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## Description

Literature and literary studies are at the core of the humanities and at the center of debates concerning culture, politics, education, and language. The program of study in English not only enriches students' appreciation of literature and engages them in cultural debate but helps develop crucial skills in analytical thinking and clear, persuasive expression both in speech and in writing. An English degree is an ideal gateway for careers that emphasize communication and critical thinking including law, business, journalism, public service, and education.

## Minimum Total Credit Hours: 120

### General Education Requirements

See the 'General Education/Core Curriculum' for the School of Liberal Arts.

### Course Requirements

A major in English for the B.A. degree consists of 30 hours in addition to the 200-level literature courses (Eng 220, 221, 222, 223, 224, 225, 226) required by the College of Liberal Arts. At least 24 hours must be upper-division, including at least 12 hours at the 400 or 500 level. English majors must take Eng 299 (Introduction to Literary Studies) and at least one course in each of three categories as listed below. One of the 400-level courses must be a capstone seminar. See the department website's course descriptions to determine which 400-level courses satisfy the capstone requirement. Eng 199 (Introduction to Creative Writing) and Eng 299 are the only 100- or 200-level courses that may be counted toward the major. No more than 3 hours of Z-graded coursework may be applied to the major. The following categories must be satisfied:

Sem Hours	Category	Courses
3	Introduction to Literary Studies	Eng 299
3	Literature of the Medieval and Early Modern Periods	Eng 316, 317, 318, 319, 320, 321, 322, 324, 326, 327, 328, 417, 418, 419, 420, 421, 422, 423, 424, 426, 427, 428, 506, 507, 513
3	Literatures of the 18th and 19th Centuries	Eng 330, 332, 333, 334, 335, 337, 338, 339, 340, 341, 343, 344, 361, 431, 434, 435, 438, 439, 442, 443, 445
3	Diverse Perspectives	Eng 357, 359, 361, 362, 363, 364, 365, 366, 367, 370, 371, 373, 374, 375, 376, 377, 378, 382, 383, 384, 385, 386, 396, 462, 465, 468, 469, 472, 473, 474, 476, 479, 481, 483, 486, 488, 489, 490, 491, 493
18	English Electives	199 and 300-, 400-, and 500-level Eng courses as well as the following approved electives taught outside the department: Clc 303, 304, 305, 307, 308, 309, 333; Lin 303, 304, 305, 506, 510, 511, 520.

No more than 12 hours of English department writing courses (Eng 199, 300, 301, 302, 303, 304, 305, 400, 401, 402, 403, 404, 405) will count toward the major. In lieu of one or two courses during the senior year, a student may take Eng 499 (Senior Thesis) for 3 or 6 credits with approval of the director of undergraduate studies. Students may satisfy the capstone seminar requirement by completing a senior thesis and with approval of the director of undergraduate studies.

English majors may choose to specialize by using their English electives to add one emphasis. The overall degree requirements remain the same.

### Emphases:

English majors may choose a creative writing emphasis by taking 12 hours of creative writing classes. The creative writing emphasis consists of Eng 199 (Introduction to Creative Writing) and three of the following courses: Eng 301, 302, 303, 304, 400, 401, 402, 403, 404, 405.

English majors may receive an editing, writing, and publishing emphasis by taking 12 hours of editing, writing, and publishing courses. The editing, writing, and publishing emphasis consists of Eng 199 (Introduction to Creative Writing), Eng 308 (Editing, Writing, and Digital Publishing), 3 hours of Eng 394 (Internship in Editing, Writing, and Publishing), and one of the following courses: Eng 301, 302, 303, 304, 400, 401, 402, 403, 404, 405.

English majors may choose a literature, justice, and society emphasis by taking 12 hours of the following courses: Eng 307, 357, 359, 361, 362, 363, 364, 365, 366, 367, 370, 371, 373, 374, 375, 376, 377, 378, 380, 382, 383, 384, 385, 386, 388, 389, 391, 396, 407, 412, 458, 462, 465, 468, 469, 472, 473, 474, 476, 479, 481, 483, 486, 488, 489, 490, 491, 493, 494, 495.

### Other Academic Requirements

The 6 hours of composition required by the College of Liberal Arts are prerequisites for Eng 299. One 200-level English course is the prerequisite for most English courses at the 300 level and above. Some creative writing courses have different prerequisites.

### Specializations

- [Emphasis - Creative Writing](#)
- [Emphasis - Editing Writing & Publishing](#)
- [Emphasis - Literature Justice & Society](#)

